

Argentine Black & White Tegu



OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Salvator merianae*
- Origin: South America
- Ease of Care: Advanced
- Potential Adult size: 3ft to 5ft
- Life Span: Up to 20 years
- Behaviour: Diurnal
- Diet: Omnivore
- Handling: Advanced

TOP TIPS

- ✓ Vary the food items offered to your Tegu to keep it stimulated
- ✓ Use a sand scoop to make spot cleaning easier

HOUSING

Young/Juvenile: HabiStat Standard Vivarium 48 x 24 x 24" (HV4824)

Adult: An 6ft x 3ft x 2ft custom built enclosure would be required as they can grow up to 5ft long.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

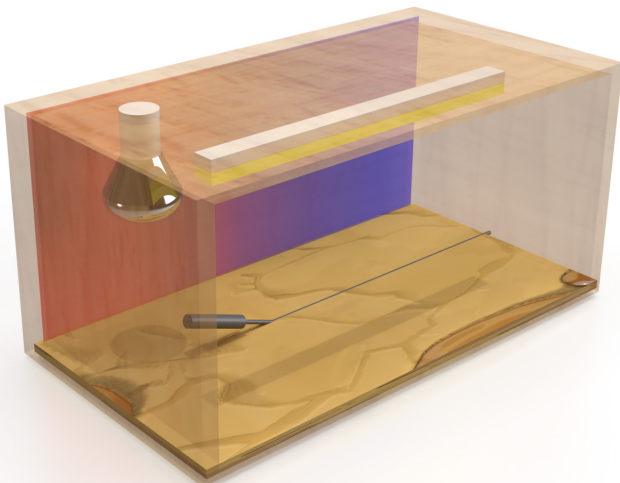


- Housing: Vivarium
- Heating: Heat Bulb
- Thermostat: Dimming Thermostat (High Range)
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Jungle Bio, HabiStat Coir, Arcadia Earth Mix Arid
- Water: Water Bowl

ENVIRONMENT



Terrestrial Vivarium Setup



Enclosure Readings

- Background Temp: 22°C (72°F) to 25°C (77°F)
- Hot Spot: 38°C (100°F) to 43°C (110°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 18°C (64°F) to 21°C (69°F)
- Humidity: 60%-80%
- UVI: 3-4

Heating

Argentine Black & White Tegu's are diurnal reptiles and require a suitable light and heat gradient in the enclosure to simulate a complete 24-hour period.

Provide a warmer/hot area towards the one side of the enclosure, using an overhead heat source to offer a heat gradient.

Use the Arcadia Pro Ceramic Lamp Holder & Bracket (RADCHP) with a HabiStat Heat Bulb (HBB150) in conjunction with a HabiStat High Range Dimming Thermostat (HTDWHR).

Dimming thermostats are designed to regulate temperatures using a thermostat probe (also known as a sensor). Correct placement of the probe is critical to avoid overheating and injury to the animal.

Check temperatures regularly, using a reliable dual thermometer and hygrometer to ensure that there are no extreme fluctuations.

Lighting

Fit the Arcadia Pro T5 UVB Kit 12% (RARTP54R) or alternatively the Arcadia LumenIZE Pro T5 UVB Kit 12% (RARLZ54R) on the inside roof of the enclosure.

Ensure that it is fitted correctly and within the manufacturer's recommended distances providing a UVI of 3-4.

Substrate and Decoration

Personal choice will dictate how you decorate your enclosure, but we recommend the following as a guide:

- HabiStat Jungle Bio (HSJB25), HabiStat Coir (HSC60) or Arcadia Earth Mix Arid (RAREA10)
- Wood/branches for climbing, hiding, and sleeping on
- Live or artificial plant decoration will provide darker areas for the animal
- A suitably sized sturdy water bowl must be provided in the cool end of the enclosure

DIET & WATER

The Argentine Black & White Tegu is mostly an insect eating species, so a varied diet of Crickets, Locust, Roaches and Morio-worms make a good basis for a needed varied diet. But certainly, don't just limit the diet to just these examples.

The species will also consume greens, vegetation, weeds, flowers, and occasional fruit.

A few times a year offer the occasional defrosted rodent or poultry item as a treat.

Always provide a source of fresh water on the floor of the enclosure. The HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish (HRSSCEL) is a safe and sturdy option.

Regularly misting the enclosure as needed will ensure the Tegu's humidity requirements are met.

SUPPLEMENTATION

Following a supplementation regime that involves calcium and multivitamin powders such as HabiStat Pure Calcium (HMC40), HabiStat Reptavite (HMRV40), HabiStat Repton (HMR40) and Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) will be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the animal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Argentine Black & White Tegu's require a high humidity range, this can be achieved by using a water retaining substrate combined with regular misting.
- This species needs an exceptionally large enclosure. One at least 6ft (L) x 3ft (D) x 2ft (H) in size.

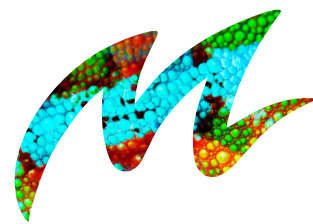
HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your animal healthy and happy:

	Water	Substrate	Enclosure
Daily	Change old water for fresh water	Spot clean	Check vents on enclosure are not blocked and allow air to pass through freely
Weekly	Disinfect water bowl or dish	Agitate substrate to prevent any bacterial build up and to allow any dirty bedding to be removed	Wipe down glass and walls with a reptile safe disinfectant
Monthly		Take out old substrate and replace with new substrate	Wipe down inside the enclosure and disinfect décor with a reptile safe disinfectant

Always wash your hands, surfaces and equipment with warm water and disinfectant immediately before and after handling your animal, their food, enclosure, and any other equipment using Habistat Anti Bac Spray (HABS) for any surface, and Habistat Anti Bac Hand Sanitiser (HABG) for hand hygiene.



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DATA MONITORING



Argentine Black & White Tegu - *Salvator merianae* Complete this Sheet at the same time every day e.g. 12pm

	Hotspot Temp 38°C-43°C (100°F-110°F)	Background Temp 22°C-25°C (72°F-77°F)	Humidity 60%-80%	UVI 3-4	Night Time Temp 18°C-21°C (64°F-69°F)	Feeding
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						